

## *In Your Shop*

How are things in your shop?

Everybody satisfied? Wages right, hours of work what you think they should be? No unhealthy conditions, no machinery that is not properly guarded and endangers your life?

Is work made as pleasant as it can be made? Are all the improvements that will make things easier put in and do you have a voice in deciding how things shall be run?

It would be a wonderful shop to work in if things were in that shape, wouldn't it? And why shouldn't things be in that shape?

Of course they are not that way now. More than likely everybody is dissatisfied? You are constantly fighting to get a little higher wages in order to keep up with the cost of living. The hours are long. The management doesn't care much whether the surroundings are dangerous to your health or whether unguarded machinery cripples or kills a man now and then. Your boss probably acts like a czar who expects you to get down on your knees whenever he's around. You haven't any say in how the shop shall be run.

You know why the shop is run in that way. It's a money-making machine for the bosses and they are going to make as much money out of you as they can. Higher wages, shorter hours, sanitary surroundings, safeguarded machinery all these things cost money and mean less profits for the boss's bank account. He isn't going to cut down his profits in order to make things more comfortable for you, unless you make him.

How are you going to make him?

He owns the shop. He can fire you when he feels like it. He has behind him, upholding his right to do as he pleases with his shop the police, the soldiers, the courts — the whole machinery of government, which is in existence for that particular purpose.

Maybe you have tried the Trade Union? It has helped some in the past, but it hasn't got you anywhere. It will help you less in the future; it splits the workers up into little trade groups who fight the capitalists separately, in place of uniting all of them in a big fight for what the workers want. Most of the big Trade Union officials are afraid of the bosses, particularly when the bosses use the government as their agent, and are always ready to sell out the workers rather than come to a showdown.

You have probably learned, as the workers most everywhere are learning, that the Trade Unions can't do the job. They belong to the time before the bosses got together and organized their One Big Union and when there was

more skill required for a trade than in the present day of machinery.

The way to fight the capitalists today is by organizing all the workers in the shop for united action. In a garment factory the cutters, the machine operators, the finishers, the pressers should belong to one shop organization, and elect a shop committee to represent them in the fight with the management. In a shipyard all the workers of every trade should unite on the job and do business with the bosses through their committee. The workers in an auto factory, no matter what particular part of the work of building, packing or shipping the auto they do, should get together and elect a shop committee to handle all the negotiations with the management.

If you are organized on the job in this fashion you can make the bosses listen to you. You can make your wishes felt in the management of the shop. You can force the bosses to give you a voice in deciding things that effect your work and the conditions under which you work.

Some bosses have organized shop committees on their own account. They hope by putting in dummy committees which they control, that they can prevent the workers from building up real fighting organizations.

Don't have anything to do with them. Your shop organization and shop committee must be your organizations. Their purpose is to fight the boss, not to help the boss.

Why not start building a shop organization and shop committee in your shop NOW?

Get together the most active fellows you know. Start agitating. When you get a good part of the shop lined up, organize.

Your shop organization will help you in the fight now for better wage and working conditions. It will also give you the foundation for the bigger fight against the whole capitalist system.

---

A big mass-meeting was held in Byesville, Ohio, July 25th, for the purpose of demanding recognition of the **Outlawed Railroaders**, and of course all the comrades living in that burg had to be on hand to help fan the blazes which were started in the valley when the outlaws first came out. The miners came out for about ten days with the railroad men but were persuaded to go back. When they drew their pay they had been fined \$1.00 a day for each day they were off, then there was hell again and the fines were finally remitted, but the men have been on edge ever since. They are crazy to join the Chicago Yardmen's Asso. and I understand that miners are being taken in in some localities. Say, we are going to have the One Big Union almost before we know it.

—CORRESPONDENT.